The Orchadian

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Official Journal of the Australasian Native Orchid Society



The Ira Butler Trophy for 2011
Dendrobium Midas Touch 'D3'

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The Orchadian

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Sarcochilus Bridget 'Good Shape' D. Butler



Sarcochilus Pixie Ann 'Marbled' D.Butler

President's Report:

It appears as if history is repeating itself, as this time last year the Eastern States were experiencing severe weather patterns, and some would question the theory about 'Global Warming'!! and the same is happening again in 2012.

I remind Members that the AGM of ANOS will be held on Saturday 1st September at the West Kempsey Bowling Club in conjunction with the Annual Speciosum Spectacular hosted by the Walmsley Family. All positions will become vacant, and it is an ideal opportunity for ANOS members to nominate for any position on the Executive or as Councillors.

Thus far the growing season has been very productive here in the West, with many new hybrids and also species producing new and healthy growths. The weather here has been quite warm with temperatures in the mid to high 30's.

I have even fertilised my orchids on a more regular basis this year in comparison to past years, having purchased a Syphonex purchased from Brian Gerhard of Down Under Native Orchids. This is an easy way to fertilise, just mix your fertiliser, then hook the hose up and away you go, great with a timer on, so no water is wasted.

Congratulations are extended to all the Student Judges who have completed their exams, and will become Certificated Judges, they still have a few years training to attend to, however, they become the lifeblood for the future of ANOS Judging.

ANOS Kabi are working diligently to ensure that the 2013 ANOS Conference is a great success, and thanks to Eddy Boudette and his Committees, keeping me up to date with progress reports. No doubt as the date approaches, articles will appear in the Orchadian.

Another reminder to ALL ANOS Groups to utilse the ANOS Website to promote your Group, with today's technological age, more and more members are searching for information, and the Website is the venue to put your Group out there.

Should you require assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me, and I'll upload any information your Group may require.

Kind regards,

Rick Winch
President
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PS. - Once again if any Member would like to contact me, please feel free to call or email.



G Hermon Slade Trophy for 2010 *Bulbophyllum phalaenopsis* 'Sensation'
Photo Garrie Bromley

Editorial

This issue features the Ira Butler Trophies. These trophies encourage the growing and interest in Australian and Australasian orchids.

It is good to see the number of nominations increase, which demonstrates increasing interest in the awards. Thanks to the secretary, Irene Bodell for promoting the trophies by distributing the images on CDs to the Australian ANOS and AOC Orchid Societies.

Congratulations to the winners who come from all over Australia.

I am continuing to publish photographs of sample images of the latest hybrids being registered. Members are interested in seeing images of what is being hybridised and pictures are worth more than words.

I still need more articles particularly on hybrids.

Some societies send me show reports, it is of interest to members in other parts of the country to see what is being exhibited and how well orchids grow in your areas.

I would be interested in publishing reports on other activities such as field excursions.

The article on breeding with *Den. canaliculatum* is a fine example of articles that members would be interested in. Other suggested topics include *Den. kingianum* and its hybrids and *Den. speciosum* and its hybrids etc.

I will publish all the show dates for 2012 in the June issue so please send me the details before the end of May.

I have a good article on Queensland *Prasophyllum* which needs illustration. If anyone has photos of Queensland *Prasophyllum* and *Genoplesium* could they please sent them to me to illustrate this article.

The AGM of ANOS will be held on Saturday 1st September at the West Kempsey Bowling Club. All members are encouraged to come to the Speciosum Show and attend the AGM on the same week end.

Ian Chalmers
Editor

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Ira Butler Trophies

Irene Bodell

The Ira Butler Trophy Committee is pleased to advise that entries for the 2011 Ira Butler Trophy Trophies have been judged. The new closing date (2nd Monday in January) has enabled these trophies to be more of a truly national competition, the change having been well received by the orchid-growing public.

Please use our new address; PO Box 5396, Chullora 2190 as the Willoughby address has been closed. The forms on our website also have the new Chullora address near the top of the form.

The committee wishes to thank all orchid growers for their continued participation. We feel that your continued support has contributed to the development of our Australian/Australasian orchids, hybrids and species; thus continuing the work of Ira Butler, Bill Murdoch and G Hermon Slade.

The Judging results for 2011 are:

The **Ira Butler Trophy** for 2011 for Champion Australian Native Orchid Hybrid of the Year has been awarded to:

Dendrobium Midas Touch 'D3' a beautiful orchid owned by Don Cruickshank and bred by David Butler. It was exhibited at the Kempsey Speciosum Spectacular and had two inflorescences with 41 flowers.

Silver Ira Butler Certificates are awarded to the following five nominations:

Sarcochilus Magic owned by Phillip Barrett and bred by Neville Roper

Sarcochilus Fitzhart owned by Anne Gardiner, breeder unknown



Dendrobium Midas Touch 'D3'
Photo Bill Dobson

Pterostylis Trunkfish owned by Les Burgess and bred by L & M Nesbitt

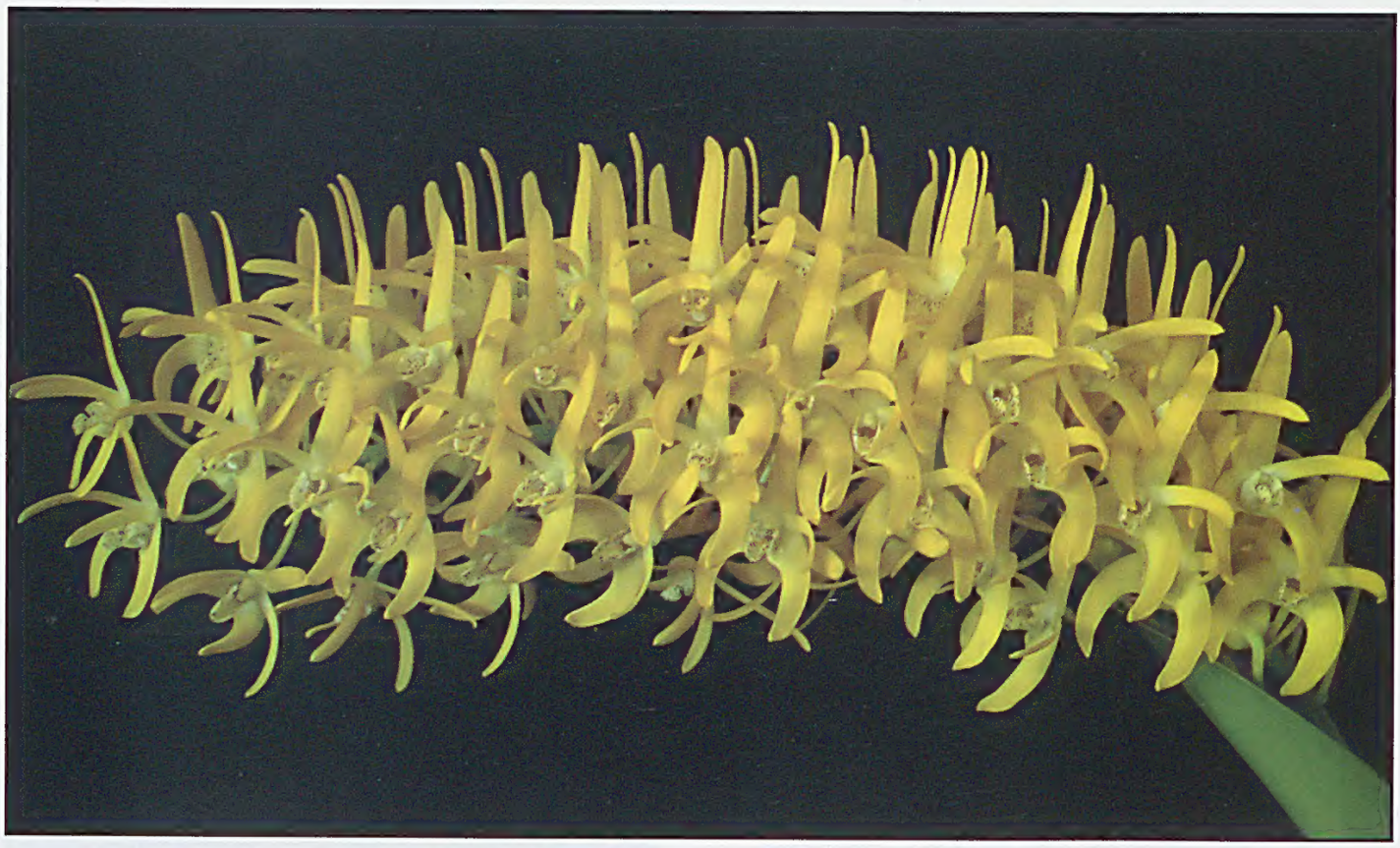
Sarcochilus Lyn 'Johnson' owned by John Whitney and bred by Neville Roper

Dendrobium Avril's Gold 'Zac' owned by Grahame Beatton and bred by Ray Hill

The **Bill Murdoch Trophy** for 2011, for the Champion Native Species of the Year has been awarded to:

Dendrobium speciosum 'Solid Gold' owned by Bernie and Merle Arrah.

It received an Award of Merit/AOC/2011 with 80.1 points. It had 4 racemes and 420 flowers.



Dendrobium speciosum 'Solid Gold' Photo Merle Arrah

Silver Bill Murdoch Certificates are awarded to the following five nominations:

Dockrillia banksii (unplaced name) 'Ruffles' owned by Steve Howard

Dendrobium speciosum var *hillii* 'Barbara' owned by L & B Dobson

Dendrobium tetragonum 'Bellingen' owned by Norm and Kay Mitchell

Sarcochilus hartmannii 'Glaps' owned by Graham Hein

Sarcochilus falcatus 'Jenna' owned by Steve Howard

The **G. Hermon Slade Trophy 2011**, for the Champion Australasian Hybrid of the Year has been awarded to:

Dendrobium Australian Ginger 'Cheryl' owned by Henk van den Berg. Bred by Australian Orchid Nursery, it was the Champion Australasian and Reserve Champion at the ANOS Central Coast



Dendrobium Midas Touch 'D3'
Photo Bill Dobson



Dendrobium Australian Ginger 'Cheryl'
Photo Jorn Vullien

Spring Show.

The **G. Hermon Slade Trophy** for 2011 for the Champion Australasian Species has been awarded to:

Bulbophyllum phalaenopsis 'Sensation' AM AOC owned by Phil & Yvonne Spence. Exhibited at the Southern Orchid Spectacular, Champion Species Other.

The R. D. Fitzgerald Trophy.
This trophy is awarded by the IBTC from time to time. The requirements of this award, along with the rules and regulations, are located on the Ira Butler Trophy website (http://www.irabutlertrophy.org).
The first recipient of the R. D. Fitzgerald Trophy was Helen Richards in 2000 for her work with terrestrial orchids.



Dendrobium Australian Ginger 'Cheryl'



Bulbophyllum phalaenopsis 'Sensation'
Photo Garrie Bromley

In 2010 the committee awarded the R. D. Fitzgerald Trophy to Colin Bower for his work on orchid pollinators.

The Committee welcomes enquiries from ANOS Groups, State Societies and Affiliated Societies. The Committee of the IBTC is willing to lend any assistance towards your nominations should you so desire.

Dendrobium speciosum 'Solid Gold' AM/AOC

This plant was in a collection of seedlings we purchased from Rick Winch, back in 1995 for the princely sum of $5. The parentage is *Den. speciosum* var. *grandiflorum* 'Mount Larcom Gold' x *Den. speciosum* 'Windermere'. From its tiny beginnings this plant showed signs of robust growth and once established thrived in the growing conditions of the shadehouse.

It is grown with all our other speciosums, under 70% green shadecloth, on a wire bench 30 cm above a blue metal floor. The mix consists of pine bark and Perlite and it is watered regularly, especially during our hot dry summers. Fertilising is done every fortnight, using full strength Polyfeed, and it is only repotted when it fills the pot.

Since it has flowered in 2006 it has won five Grand Champions and one Reserve Champion (all at different societies shows), a Bill Murdoch Bronze Certificate and in 2011 was awarded an AM/AOC. In 2011 it had four arching racemes presenting 420 magnificent solid gold coloured flowers that were large in size and evenly spaced along each raceme with stunning effect.

We are thrilled to receive this award and for those of you coming to Perth for the 19th AOC Conference you could strike it lucky and see it in full bloom – fingers crossed.

Bernie & Merle Arrah
Western Australia



Dendrobium speciosum 'Solid Gold' AM/AOC



Photos Merle Arrah

Australian Orchid Research 6: 2011 Review

Lavarack, P.S. (Bill). 2011. Expeditions to Cape York Peninsula, North Queensland, Australia 1976-1989

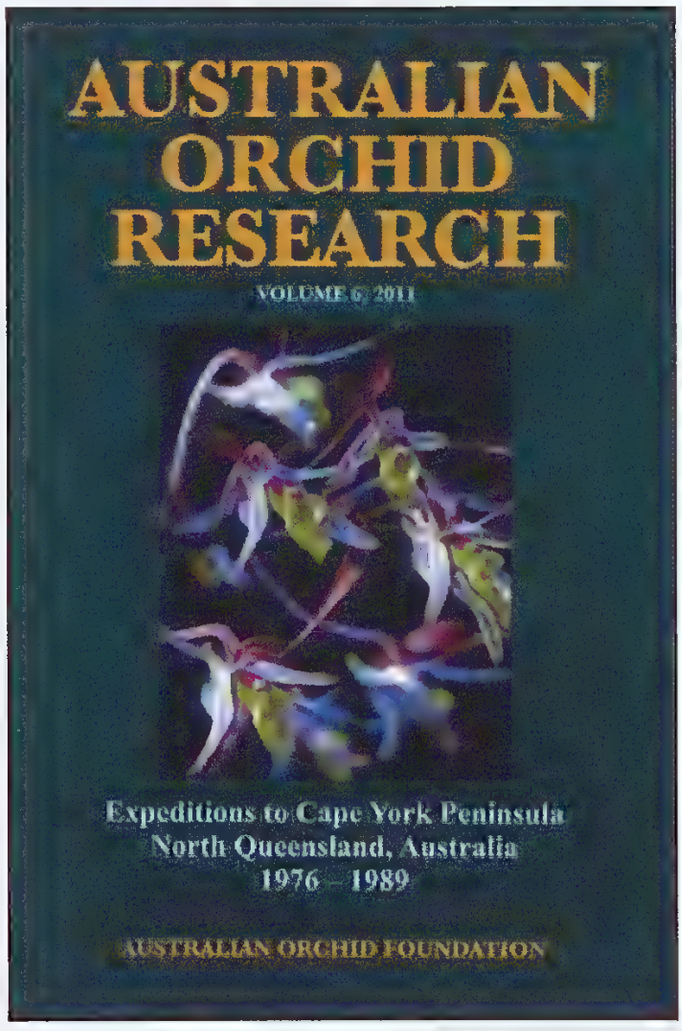
Phillip Cribb

Lavarack, P.S. (Bill). 2011. Expeditions to Cape York Peninsula, North Queensland, Australia 1976-1989. Australian Orchid Research 6: 2-180. 3 Figs, 68 colour plates, 11 maps. Australian Orchid Foundation, P.O. Box 322, Essendon North, Victoria 3041 (www.australianorchidfoundation.org.au). ISBN 978-0-9595384-9-6. Paperback. Price Au $40.

This is the sixth volume in the occasional series published by the Australian Orchid Foundation. However, it is the first to concentrate on orchids as a conservation tool. In the introduction Bill Lavarack discusses the history of the series of expeditions led by him for the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service during the 1970s and 1980s which led to the establishment of a series of large National Parks spanning the length of the east coast and coastal ranges of northern Queensland. From 1976 until 1989 they were funded by the Australian Orchid Foundation, a magnificent charity which has done so much to encourage and fund Australian orchid research over many years.

Orchid exploration in Cape York began with Joseph Banks who collected *Dendrobium canaliculatum* and *D. discolor* when Captain Cook's Endeavour was beached for repairs caused by running onto the Great Barrier Reef. Little more was achieved until the Archbold Expedition of 1948 when the botanist Len Brass collected 15 more orchid species there. Apart from a few collections by L. Wassell and Mal Brown in the 1950s an 1960s, the Cape remained almost virgin territory for botanical exploration. Bill Lavarack's passion for orchids changed that by leading a series of expeditions with noted orchid specialists such as David Jones, Bruce Gray and Ben Wallace. He raised the number of orchids reported from Cape York to 128 species. Although notable in itself, the real achievement of Lavarack and his team's reports was to set the agenda for the raising of National Parks to cover all the richest habitats in the Cape.

The accounts cover seven expeditions conducted between 1976 and 1989, often under great difficulty. The area is difficult to work in, much of the forest grows on rock pile, a treacherous terrain. The rivers which would allow



easy access are the home of large estuarine crocodiles which have to be treated with considerable care. Poisonous snakes are also an ever-present hazard. Altogether it is difficult country to negotiate and survive in. Several expedition members suffered illnesses, the worst of which was leishmaniasis, and one expedition had to be abandoned as a result.

I must confess that I have a vested interest in these accounts of Cape York, an area I was fortunate to visit with Bill's 1983 expedition to the Pascoe River. It was a trip that I thoroughly enjoyed, the highlight for me being the discovery of a new species of *Habenaria*, now named as *H. macraithii*. The low-point occurred almost simultaneously when I walked into a stinging tree, the effects of which were dramatically painful and lasted for six months.

This record of an exciting series of expeditions and their gratifying outcome is well-written and illustrated. Significantly, it demonstrates how important orchid studies can be for conservation. I can recommend this well produced volume without reservation.

Australian Orchid Foundation

The address for the AOF:

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7th Australasian Native Orchid Conference & Show Strathpine 2013

The A.N.O.S Queensland Kabi group have gladly taken the opportunity to host the 7th National Australasian Native Orchid Society (A.N.O.S) Conference and Show. The conference will be held from the 21st to the 25th August 2013 at the Strathpine Community Centre. We look forward to showcasing the many Australasian orchids that will be on display with a large contingent from local societies of South East Queensland and northern New South Wales and welcome participation and entries of Australasian Native orchids from all societies and individuals.

We have been busy and have our committees up and running. The venue, Strathpine Community Centre is well lit and spacious, easily able to showcase the orchids and displays that are an intrinsic part of any conference.

The theme for the conference is "Nature's Diversity" and the conference emblem is the beautiful *Phaius bernaysii* which is an endangered species from south east Queensland.

The committees are working on the many areas to make this a great conference; enticing the best speakers to share their knowledge and vendors that will have the jewels we treasure, to make your experience of the 7th A.N.O.S Conference and show a memorable and enjoyable time. Mingle with fellow enthusiasts where friendships from Australia and also the world are made and old ones are rekindled. The Kabi society will keep all the latest up to date information posted on their web page www.ourshopfront.com/kabi
We look forward to seeing all those that share the passion of growing Australasian orchids from all over the world. The orchid community will be kept informed as speakers and vendors are confirmed through the various orchid magazines and other publications.

Regards
The Conference Marketing Committee

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Some Observations of *Plectorrhiza erecta*

Iloyd Edwards

This is not a scientific study just some observations from a dude who loves orchids.

Plectorrhiza erecta is endemic to Lord Howe Island (10 km x 2 km), the largest of a small group of Isles 600 kms east of Port Macquarie New South Wales. Other orchids endemic to this island are *Dendrobium gracilicaule* var. *howeanum* and *Dendrobium moorei*. *D. gracilicaule* var. *howeanum* is quite widespread whereas *Den. moorei* and *Plrhz. erecta* choose to grow in their selected piece of this paradise. Over the last couple of years I have been lucky enough to check out *Plrhz. erecta* in the wild, including twice during the flowering period. On my last visit I made time to have a good look at this tough little character.

My initial findings of *Plrhz. erecta* are probably worth the tale. Having read up on what little I could find, having seen plenty of *Sarcochilus* in the wild and having a property surrounded by creeks *of Plrhz. tridentata,* I felt quite confident of getting to the little Isle of Lord Howe and finding *Plrhz. erecta*. The first few days saw me in gullies and creek lines with no success. As I was there with my wife for our 20th wedding anniversary I thought it prudent to leave searching for another visit. On our last day we did a bushwalk that passed many lookouts, what a way to finish a great stay! When we arrived at the second lookout, exposed to full sun and drying winds, you can imagine my wry smile to see *Plrhz. erecta* underneath the foot of a lady enjoying the view. I did not squeak but I did squirm, and waited to check out my first *Plrhz. erecta* in the wild. Now found, well, you know the kid in a lolly shop feeling.

Plrhz. erecta appears to be confined to a small area on the Island but is abundant there. It can be found in full sun with yellowed leaves or filtered light where the plants look very healthy and will form a large mass. I did not find any in dense shade. Plants may be small, only consisting of a few vertical growths or grow in large clumps. The largest I saw would have been 4 m x 5 m. *Dendrobium gracilicaule* var. *howeanum* was regularly seen to be growing with *Plrhz. erecta*. Plants were found from sea level to an elevation of about 180 m, most growing between 150 m and 180 m. There are still two hills for me to look at, however the local National Parks and Wildlife Service, advised that they were not sure if *Plrhz. erecta* were found on these.

At all times *Plrhz. erecta* grew where there was plenty of airflow. It being a narrow island there is nothing to stop the flow of air over the plants. The scrub growth showed that winds were common. Indeed Lord Howe Island is a windy place in winter. Most of the airflow I experienced was cool and moist typical of *Aeridinae (*was *Sarcanthinae*) conditions. Plants would receive plenty of salt in the wind as well.

Plrhz. erecta as the name states, grows vertically and pushes up past grasses, fern and scrub with many aerial roots. Plant height seems to be 250-400 mm. When the plant gets too high it falls over to send new verticals from the fallen cane. The plant has very rigid leaves and canes, if there is a tree, shrub or rock nearby *Plrhz. erecta* has no problem about going epiphytic or lithophytic.

The leaves of *Plrhz. erecta* are short



Looking up to the hills where *Plrhz. erecta* is found.



Plrhz. erecta found on top and both sides of the hill in foreground. Background hills in the clouds are home to *Dendrobium moorei*



Walking track and typical scrub where *Plrhz. erecta* is found. Centre of photo the yellowy leaves belong to a *Plrhz. erecta* that receives full westerly sun.



Walking track and typical scrub where *Plrhz. erecta* is found, Close-up of above.

being 20 -40 mm long and 10-15 mm wide. They are very thick, growing perpendicular to the plant stem/cane that is 2-5 mm in diameter. I did not note any different growth forms but there were a few colour forms. Viewing the same plants two years apart the flower colour form seems stable (ie. the colour form was the same both times I saw them). Colour varied on the face of the sepals and petals. There were 3 basic forms. One a clear yellow, another with brown/maroon speckling over the yellow and a third with dark flowers of chocolate brown/purple over yellow. This form seems to flower a bit later.

The flowers are 5 - 8 mm in diameter with a very heavy texture and last for a long time, generally 3 to 6 on the flower spike of 20 - 40 mm long. The labellum and column are of a striking colour. The labellum is large for the flower, cream with 5 distinctive spots of yellow to purple. The column is vivid purple and makes a striking centre to the bloom. At no time have I seen a sign of a



A little clump of *Plrhz. erecta*, on the right growing epiphytically and lithophytically.



Plrhz. erecta - Dark flowered form.



A plant showing the flowering habit and their fondness to send out aerial roots. This is the yellow flowered form.

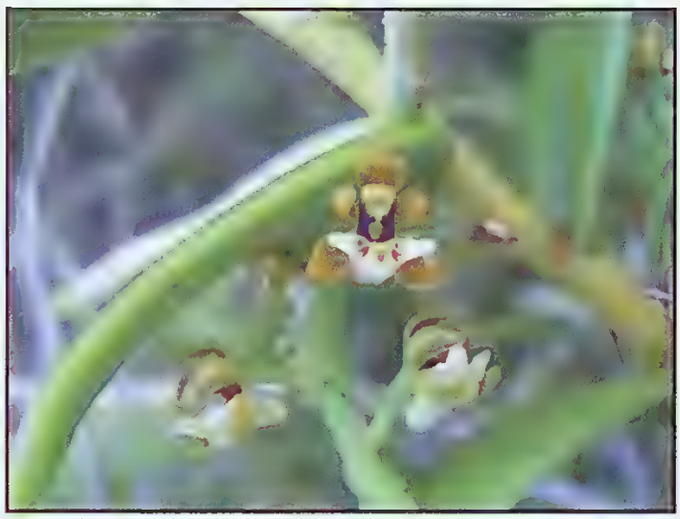
pollinator, in fact I am yet to see a seed pod. Flowers have a strong fragrance, this was hard to detect due to the close proximity of a Sooty Tern rookery that only an ornithologist would call fragrant.

I have been interested in *Plrhz. erecta* for a very long time. Moons ago I purchased a seedling from Neil Finch of *Sarco. falcatus* x *Plrhz. erecta*, it produced meaty blooms that last in white/cream/green. I really liked this hybrid and it sparked my interest in an orchid I was unaware of - I still have this plant growing.

Plectorrhiza erecta is one tough little character with pretty little flowers and a strong growth habit. It looks lovely as a large clump under trees.

Photos Lloyd Edwards

Lloyd Edwards
Earth to Joy Orchids
www.earthtojoy.com.au



Plrhz. erecta - Lightly speckled form.



A large mass of *Plrhz. erecta* approx. 3 m x 5 m. Heavily sprinkled through and around the mass was *Dendrobium gracilicaule* var. *howeanum*.



Den. gracilicaule var. *howeanum*.

ANOSVIC Gerald McCraith Student Native Orchid Research Prize

The ANOS Victoria Committee was proud to initiate the ANOSVIC Gerald McCraith Student Native Orchid Research Prize, as a way of recognising the enormous contribution Gerald made to our native orchids.

The prize was established to help promote academic research into Australian native orchids, and acknowledge excellence in orchid research undertaken by a student enrolled at a Victorian tertiary institute.

The prize will be awarded annually to the Honours, MSc or PhD thesis submitted during the previous twelve months, that we judge to be the best.

We are pleased to announce that a five person sub-committee unanimously selected Freya Thomas as the inaugural recipient of this prize.

In 2011, Freya received first class honours from La Trobe University for her thesis entitled: "Batesian Mimicry Breakdown in *Thelymitra*".

Congratulations to Freya!

The thesis examined mimicry within the genus *Thelymitra.* Blue out-breeding species within this genus are hypothesised to be mimics of local lily-like taxa.

However, Freya's detailed field research found that there was no evidence to support this theory in out-breeding species (e.g. *Thelymitra aristata*) or facultatively inbreeding species (e.g. *Thelymitra ixioides*).

In addition, Freya compared the major floral parameters of blue *Thelymitra* species and putative mimic species. The Morning Flag (*Orthrosanthus* sp.) was the only wildflower found to have close phenotypic similarity to out-breeding *Thelymitra* spp.

Freya's thesis is the first research to quantify the visual similarity between *Thelymitra* species and putative mimics.

Freya will receive her prize at the ANOSvic monthly meeting on Friday August 3rd, where she will also present the results of her study at the first 'Gerald McCraith Lecture'.

All are welcome to attend (Toorak Uniting Church Hall, 603 Toorak Rd, at 8 pm).

Tertiary institutions are reminded that application forms for the 2012 ANOSVIC Gerald McCraith Student Native Orchid Research Prize will be circulated shortly.

Please make sure that all eligible applicants (anyone who submits an Honours, MSc or PhD thesis during the 2012 calendar year on the topic of native orchids) are made aware of this prize.

Regards,

ANOS (Victorian Group) Committee

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ANOS Council Meetings proudly Sponsored by Telstra Countrywide

The A. W. Dockrill Orchid Herbarium

Ashley Field

The Australian Tropical Herbarium (www.ath.org.au) recently completed the addition of the historic orchid herbarium donated by the late A. W. (Alick) Dockrill, well known author of the two volume Australian Indigenous Orchids and many articles on native orchids. The A. W. Dockrill collection includes flower cards and herbarium specimens collected between 1930 and 1974 of many of the species indigenous to north Queensland.

Among the collection are a number of important specimens such as the type of *Eria intermedia*, a species that has only ever been recorded once, and a duplicate of Gus Rosenstrom's famous *Phalaenopsis rosenstromii* type specimen. Not all of the specimens were collected by Alick Dockrill, many of them were exchanged with early orchid collectors and taxonomists in the 1950's such as S.F. St. Cloud and H.E. Rupp. Among the oldest specimens are the 1930's collections made by W. H. Nicholls, the illustrator and author of Orchids of Australia (published posthumously and edited by D.L. Jones).

The oldest specimen made by Alick Dockrill himself is a collection is a *Calanthe triplicata* from September 1935. Early records like these can be important for determining the locations of populations that may no longer exist due to over-collecting or human sprawl. To protect the specimens and ensure that they last into the future, our volunteers have been remounting the A. W. Dockrill specimens onto archival herbarium folders.

So far more than 1260 of the complete herbarium specimens have already been recorded in the database and accessioned into our climate controlled collection room.

Many of the specimens in the A. W. Dockrill herbarium were not herbarium specimens but folios of flower cards of indigenous and exotic species that flowered in the orchid houses of prominent 1950's collectors of north Queensland orchids such as the well known J. Wilkie, W. Muir, A. E. Johnson and S. F. St Cloud. Although the orchid-house flower cards are of limited use to the taxonomist, they do provide an interesting insight into what species had already been imported into Australia by the 1950's. They include a broad spectrum of antelope *Dendrobium* from Papua New Guinea, not all of which were named at the time.

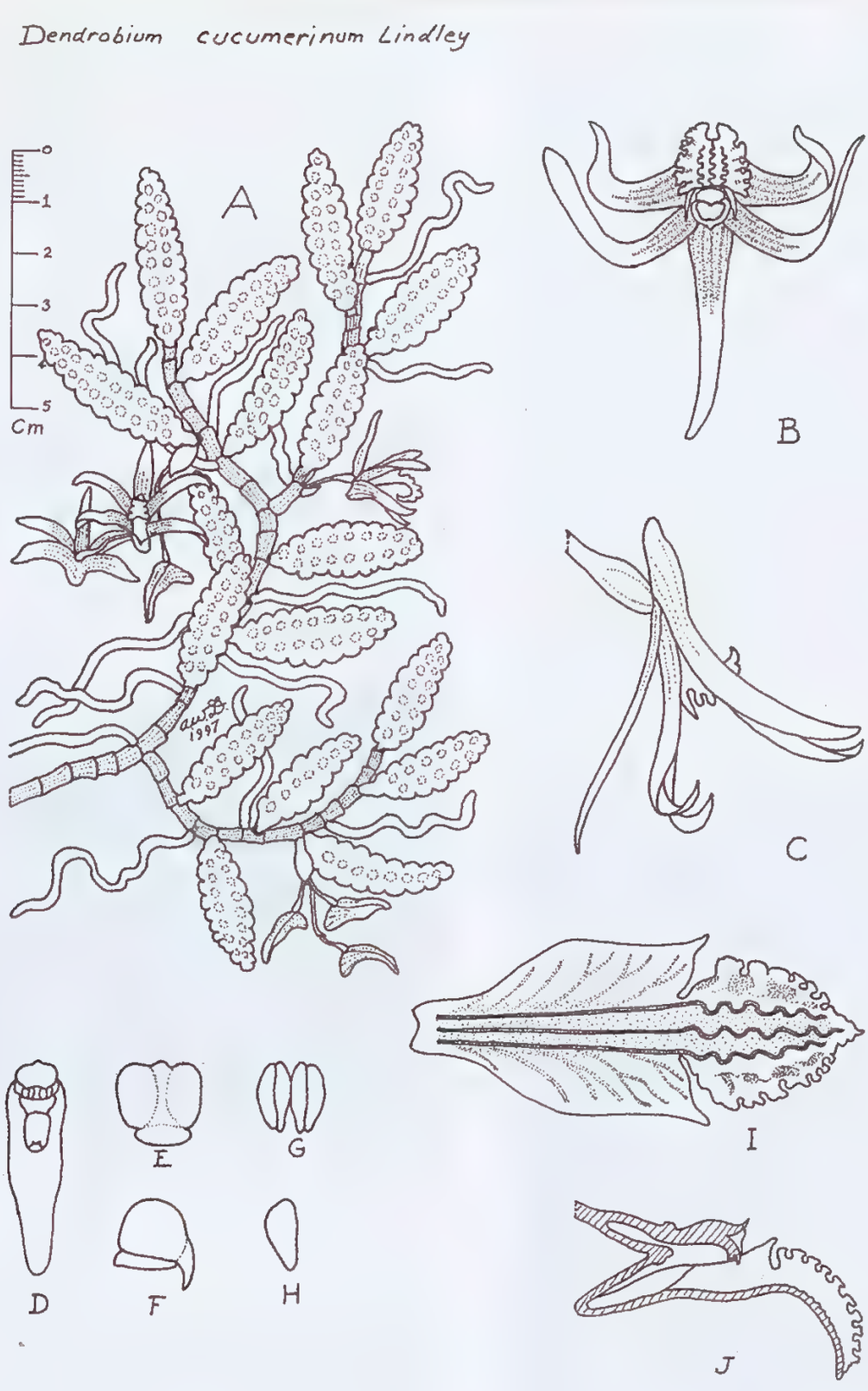
They also provide records of some early hybridisation efforts among tropical native *Dendrobium* as well as the earliest record I have been able to find of a wild collected *D. discolor* x *D. nindii.*

Overall, the A. W. Dockrill collection makes for an interesting addition to the Australian Tropical Herbarium where hopefully it can be preserved, along with over 150 000 other specimens of tropical Australian plants, for future generations to enjoy.

Australian Tropical Herbarium
Department of Environment and Resource Management

Sir Robert Norman Building (E2)
P.O.Box 6811 Cairns, QLD 4870

www.ath.org.au



A–Portion of plant.....to indicated scale
B–Flower from the front.....to scale x 3
C– Flower from the side.....to scale x 3
D– Column from the front.....to scale x 5
E– Anther from the front.....to scale x 10
F– Anther from the side.....to scale x 10
G–Pollinia from the front.....to scale x 10
H Pollinium from the side.....to scale x 10
I– Labellum flattened out.....to scale x 10
J– Median longitudinal section of column and labellum.....to scale x 5

One illustration of Alick Dockrill's drawings

Hybridising with *Dendrobium canaliculatum*

Robert Reitano

The orchid fraternity often marvels at the wonders of Mother Nature's ideas of floral beauty. She certainly has us intrigued when it comes to the *Spatulata* Section of the genus *Dendrobium*. Orchids in this section exhibit a range of characteristics that constantly capture the interest of many growers and hybridisers, most certainly the main being the twisted and spiralled petals and sepals in many of the members. Many of the more spectacular species are tall growers. As a result, many hobbyists refrain from cultivating them because of their physical height requirements in the orchid house. For this reason, hybridising programs have focussed on using *Dendrobium canaliculatum* to reduce the physical heights of progeny and maintaining the endearing charms of the antelope twists in the Section.

Habitat and Characteristics of *D. canaliculatum*

D. canaliculatum is a miniature species commonly known as the Tea-Tree or Onion Orchid. The common names are derived from the fact that it is often found growing on *Melaleuca* species, and the pseudobulbs which have an elongated onion-like shape. The pseudobulb can reach up to 25 cm in length. It often flowers on extremely small plants, with the long, multiple and slender racemes appearing from the apical nodes, with each raceme bearing up to 50 twisted flowers. The flowers are generally 20-25 x 25-30 mm in size. The slender sepals and petals are normally white to pale yellow at the base with varying shades of yellow (var. *canaliculatum*) on the apical half, but colour may range from white with pale-yellowish to green tips on the sepals and petals (var. *pallidum*) to orange or deep reddish brown, which usually shades into lighter colours at the base of the floral segments (var. *nigrescens*), and near violet shades with lighter colour at the base as found in the form on Badu Island. Sepals are 10-15 mm in length x 3-4 mm in width, and petals measuring 13-18 mm in length x 2.5-3 mm in width. The labellum is usually white and purple and is between 10-13 mm long x 7-9 mm wide. It is tri-lobed with broad lateral lobes that are erect and a mid-lobe usually 4-5 mm wide, shortly pointed with 3 wavy calli (Jones 2006).

Varieties



Den. canaliculatum var. *canaliculatum*

Although there appears to be some disparity between researchers regarding the variation of flower colour and inflorescence,, to date the following varieties have been described: var. *canaliculatum*, var. *foelschei*, var. *nigrescens*, var. *pallidum*. and var. *tattonianum* (Jones 1986, Jones 2006, Lavarack *et al.* 1985, Lavarack *et al.* 2006, Watson Sharp 1970). The natural hybrids discussed below involve var. *canaliculatum* and var. *nigrescens*. For orchids The Royal Horticultural Society International Orchid Register is based on hybrids between two species, a species

and a grex or two greges. The register generally does not recognise varieties. Note: Plants other than orchids the register includes hybrids between two cultivars.

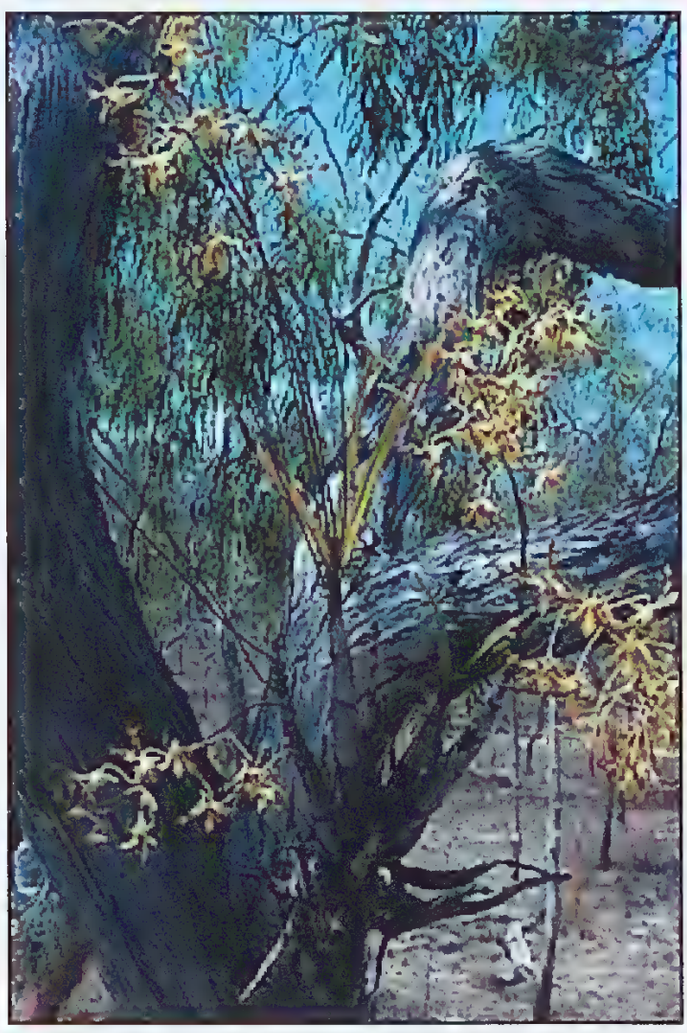
Natural Hybrids

Dendrobium canaliculatum readily hybridises with other dendrobiums within its natural habitat. As a result of his many field trips around the Cape York Peninsula, Chris Cobb has reported natural hybrids between *D. canaliculatum* and the following species: *D. semifuscum* (syn of *D. trilamellatum*), *D. trilamellatum, D. johannis, D. discolor,* and *D. carronii.* These natural hybrids all belong to Section *Spatulata,* and are often found growing and flowering together on the same hosts or within close proximity of each other. As the species do not usually exhibit purple on their labellum, Cobb noted that the prominent characteristic in most of the natural primary hybrids found in the Lockhart River region is the coloured labellum from the *D. canaliculatum* influence (see photographs). Furthermore, most of the other *Spatulata* species do not possess the terete leave characteristics of *D. canaliculatum*, whereas the natural primary hybrids do exhibit *D. canaliculatum* influence in narrower and farrowed leaves.

Hybrids

Whether in natural or man-made hybrids, the influence of *D. canaliculatum* is often visible. Not only does labellum colouration and leaf characteristic remain dominant, Cobb states there are other telltale signs of *D. canaliculatum's* presence in the parentage. Many of the species in Section *Spatulata* are tall growers, and the pseudobulbs are not always reduced in height, but are thickened by the influence of *D. canaliculatum.* It also tends to increase floriferousness, with many progeny producing multiple inflorescences from each pseudobulb. B. Coleman (pers. comm.) concurs that many hybrids generally exhibit upright inflorescences, not necessarily increased flower count, but increased inflorescences that maintain a good flower count. He also reports a narrowing of the leaves with a definite farrowed characteristic. Many hybrids inherit a bunching of the leaves toward the top of the pseudobulb; although both Cobb and Coleman believe there are exceptions to some or all of these characteristics in some hybrids.

During his many years of hybridising with *D. canaliculatum,* Coleman found that it often reduced the physical height of many taller *Dendrobium* hybrids,



Natural hybrid exhibiting narrow, farrowed leaves bunched towards apical nodes. Courtesy of Chris Cobb



Natural hybrid—*D.* x *hybrid k (D. semifuscum x D. canaliculatum)* showing canaliculatum influence in labellum and side lobes. Courtesy of Chris Cobb



Natural hybrid—*(D. trilamellatum x D. canaliculatum)* showing influence in labellum colour. Courtesy of Chris Cobb (registered hybrid *D.* Goldmine)

and that most of the progeny exhibited pseudobulbs that had a thicker, more swollen appearance. He states that *D. canaliculatum* also has the ability to increase the number of inflorescences per pseudobulb and hold the flowers more upright in hybrids. Experience also shows that when crossed with New Guinea species, they produce progeny that are more cool tolerant.

Many of the taller growing species in Section *Spatulata* can grow up to 2-3 m in their natural habitat, but the majority of hybrids with *D. canaliculatum* seldom exceed heights of 1 m in cultivation. As with any hybrid the degree of dominance from each parent varies in the progeny, with hybrids from the same crossing exhibiting variable heights and floral characteristics in mature specimens. However, the prominent characteristics that one notes from many of these hybrids are their stout pseudobulbs with farrowed leaves, which tend to bunch towards the top portion of the canes. The flowers often exhibit a degree of the *D. canaliculatum* colouration in the labellum.

Table 1 indicates the registered primary hybrids within the Section *Spatulata.* Those in bold font are also found as natural primary hybrids.

D. canaliculatum crossed with	
antennatum = Lowana Nioka	*veratrifolium* (syn) = Pale Mack
capra = Bali Apple	*mirbelianum* = Gloucester Dawn
carronii* = Mighty Mite	*schulleri* = Fraser's Canary Twister (see photo)
discolor* = Gloucester Sands (see photo)	***semifuscum** (syn) = Fraser's Sulphur Curls / x hybrid k* (see photo)
gouldii = Jaydee Jim (see photo)	*stratiotes* = Allyn Dervish
helix = Phyllis Merritt	*strebloceras* = Autumn Lace
johannis* = Rachelle Simpson	x *superbiens* = Lloyd Stainton
lasianthera = Ostrinocanal	*tangerinum* = Maid of Gloucester
ostrinoglossum (syn of *lasianthera*) = Bundy's Mini Lassie (syn) (see photo)	*taurinum* = Linc's Jewel (non-Australasian)
lineale = Gloucester Charm	*tokai* = tocanal
	***trilamellatum** = hybrid k* **Goldmine(syn)** (see photo)

Table 1. Primary hybrids of *D. canaliculatum* within Section Spatulata
*Denotes evidence of natural hybrids found in situ courtesy of Chris Cobb

Primary Hybrids with other *Dendrobium* Sections

When hybridised with species from other *Dendrobium* Sections, *D. canaliculatum* will as pass on its dominant traits. When hybridised with species from Section *Phalaenanthe* the progeny tends to have a broader flowering period and the flowers have fuller segments. Often these hybrids exhibit flowers with a physical size in between that of both parents. If *D. affine, D. bigibbum,* or *D. phalaenopsis* are crossed with *D. canaliculatum* the progeny have flowers that possess dominant characteristics of the Section *Phalaenanthe* in colour, shape and flowering period. However, a number of *D. canaliculatum* traits are obvious with these progeny often exhibiting stout, swollen pseudobulbs with furrowed leaves that bunch toward the terminal nodes and hints of the labellum coloration in lighter flowers. Photographs A and B indicate the contrast between pseudobulbs of typical *Spatulata* hybrids and those influenced by *D. canaliculatum.*

See Table 2 for the primary hybrids between *D. canaliculatum* and those of other *Dendrobium* sections.

Hybridising with members of Section *Dendrocoryne* have led to progeny tolerating wider temperature variance, enhanced inflorescence characteristics,



Den. Lloyd Stainton
(*D. canaliculatum* x *D.* x *superbiens*)



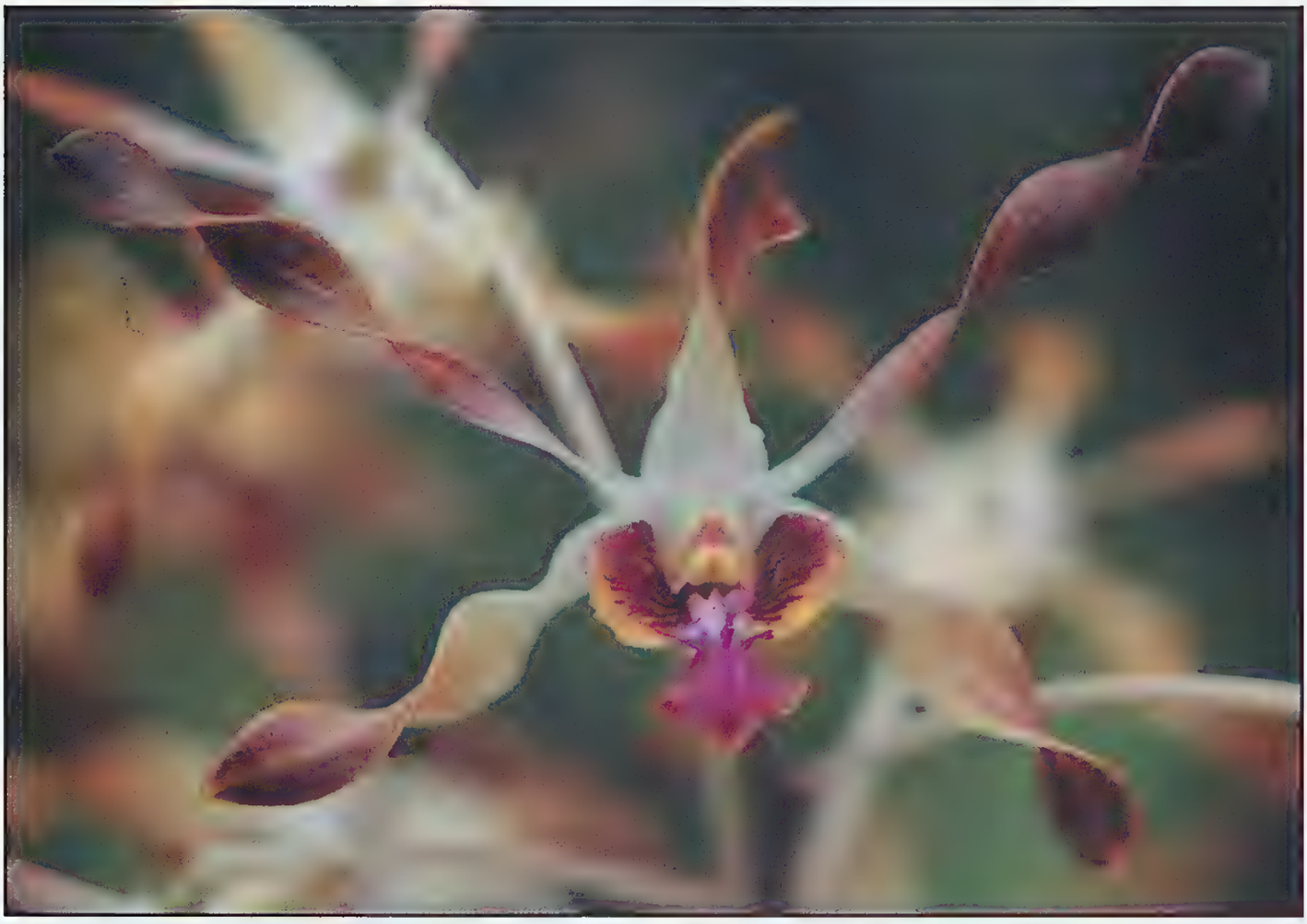
Den. Fraser's Canary Twister
(D. schulleri x D. canaliculatum)



Den. Gloucester Sands
(*D. canaliculatum* x *D. discolor*)



Den. Rachelle Simpson
(*D. canaliculatum* x *D. johannis*)

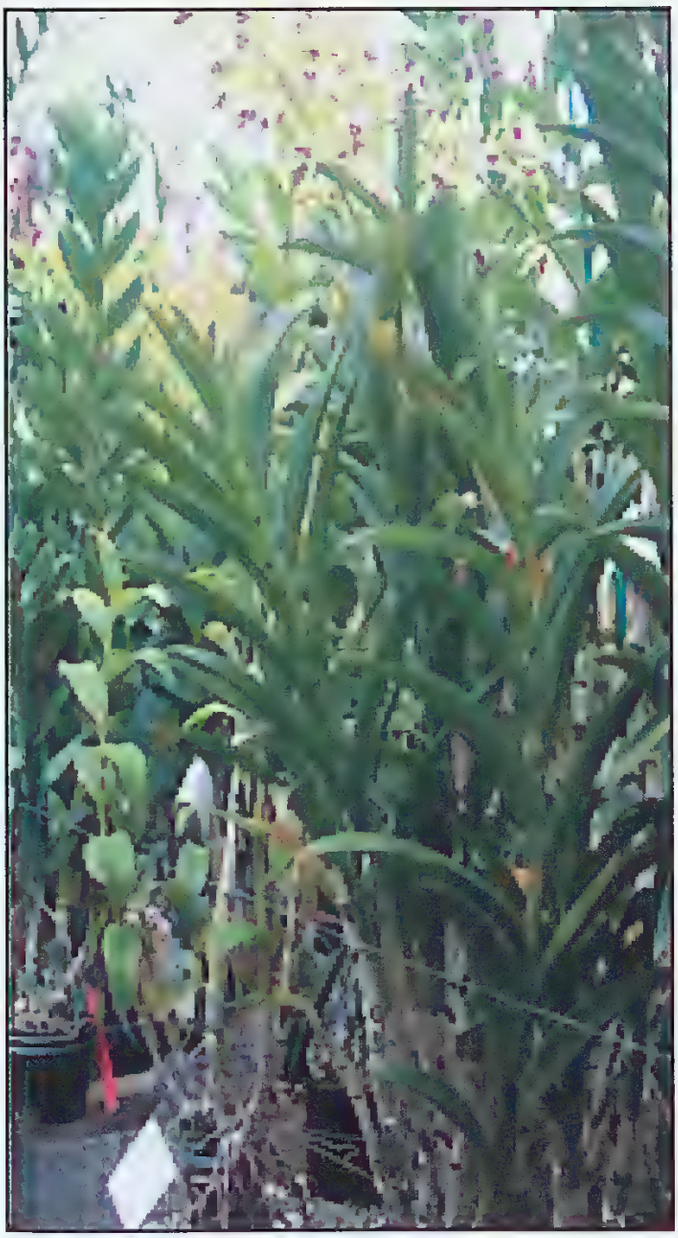


Den. Jaydee Jim (*D. canaliculatum* x *D. gouldii*)

and extended flowering times. Hybrids such as *D.* Memoria Lloyd Bradford (see photo) have increased flower counts from the *D. speciosum* influence, but the inflorescences tend to hold themselves upright rather than arching. Sections *Latouria* and *Phalaenanthe hybrids* tend to increase flower texture and longevity as well as broader temperature tolerance; however, one must be aware that the nodding characteristics of many *Latouria* species may exacerbate the already nodding characteristics of *D. canaliculatum.* Having said this, interesting colour, spotting and stripping is often evident from such crossings as in *D.* Maggie May and *D.* Golden Chimes (see photo).

D. canaliculatum crossed with:	
affine = Judy Leroy (see photo)	*gracilicaule* = Rose Bay
atroviolaceum = Golden Chimes (see photo)	*jonesii* = Liquid Sunshine
bifalce = Maggie May (see photo)	*monophyllum* = Collette Fleur Simpson
bigibbum = Mini Pearl (see photo)	*phalaenopsis* = Rosy Tips
cruttwellii = Aussie's Petite	*pseudoconanthum* = Raindrops
falcorostrum = Falcan	*speciosum* = Memoria Lloyd Bradford (see photo)
fellowsii = Pauline Maria	*teretifolium* = Ayr Queensland
	tetragonum = Rosely Taifalos

Table 2. Dendrobium canaliculatum primary hybrids



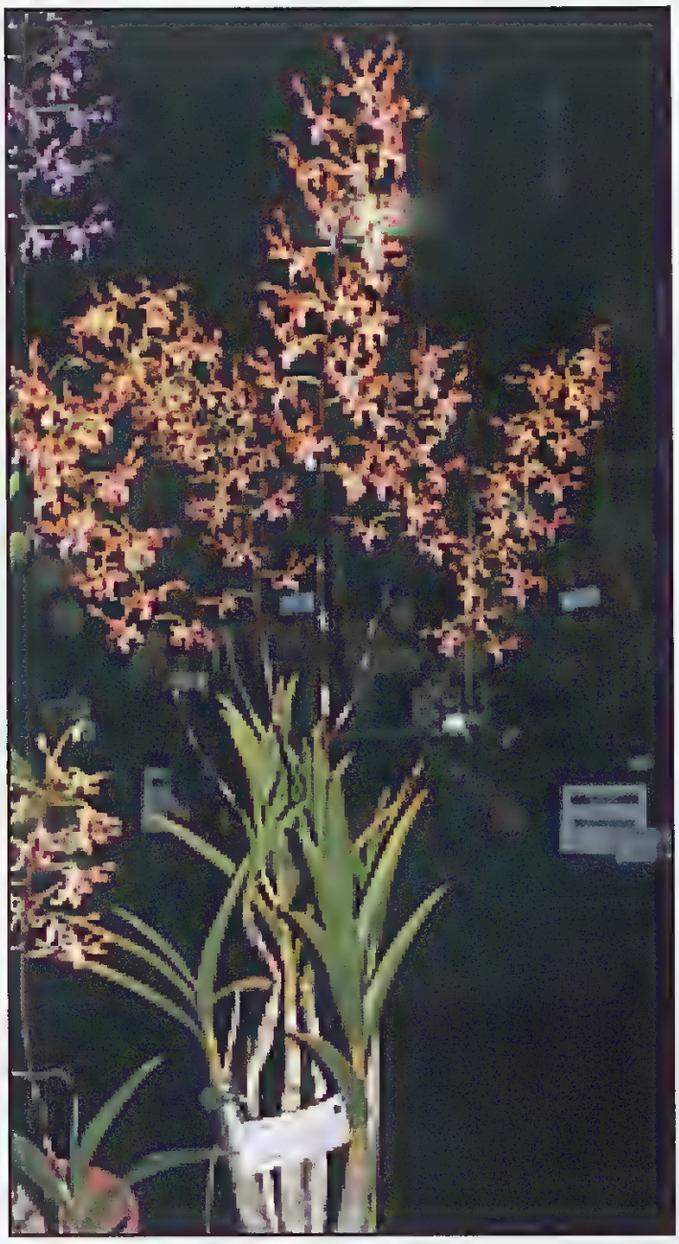
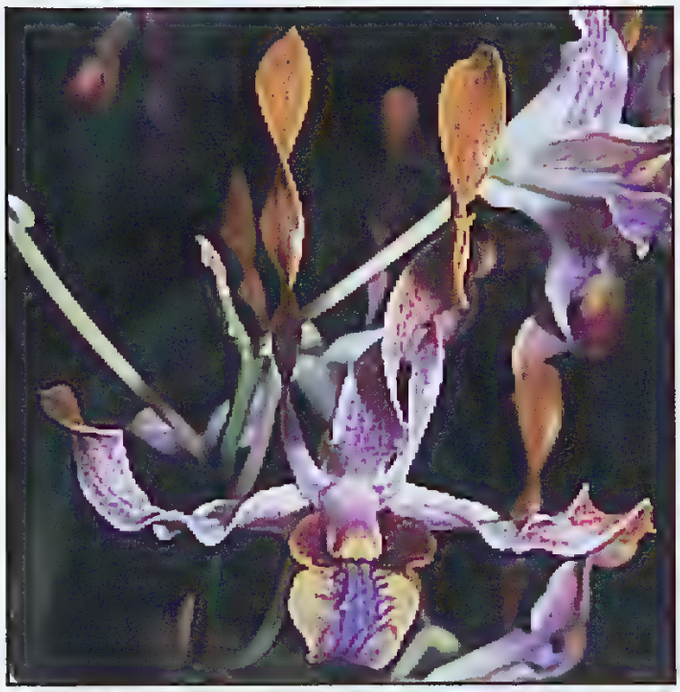


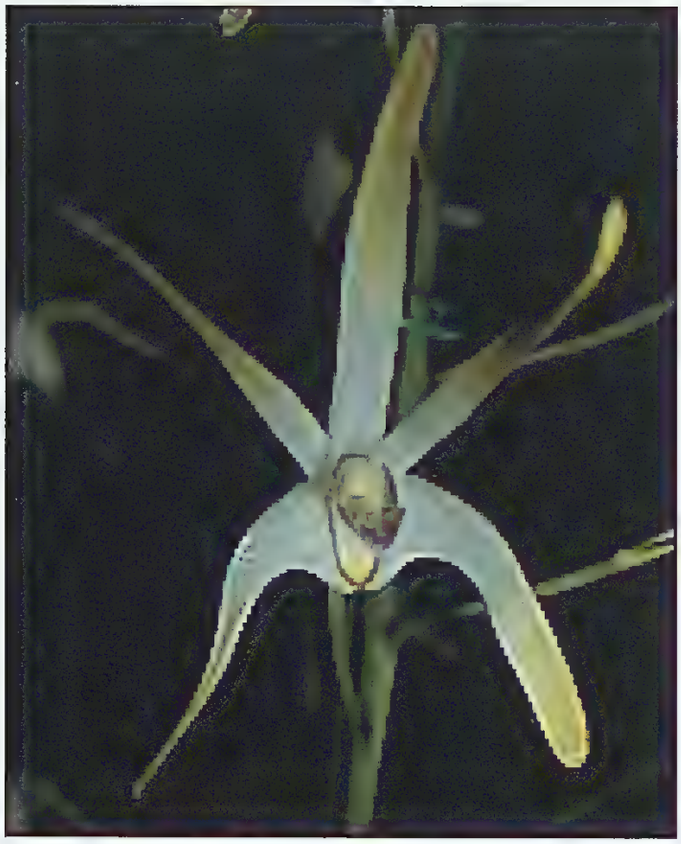
Photo A and B indicate the contrast between pseudobulbs of typical *Spatulata* hybrids and those influenced by *D. canaliculatum.*



Den. Maid of Gloucester
(D. canaliculatum x *D. tangerinum)*



Den. Bundy's Mini Lassie
(D.lasianthera x *D. canaliculatum)* exhibiting less twisting of petals and long inflorescences.



Den. Memoria Lloyd Bradford
(*D. canaliculatum* x *D. speciosum*)



Den. Maggie May *(D. canaliculatum x D. bifalce) courtesy of J. Cara*

Complex Hybrids

Hybridisers persist in their quest to reduce the size of taller growing hybrids, to create plants with increased flower count and produce multiple inflorescences per pseudobulb. When mixed into complex hybrids *D. canaliculatum* continues to impart many of its prominent traits. However, with the



Den. Judy Leroy
(*D. affine* x *D. canaliculatum*)



Den. Mini Pearl
(*D. canaliculatum* x *D. bigibbum*)



Den. Golden Chimes
(D. canaliculatum x *D. atroviolaceum)*
courtesy of J. Cara

influence of other species in the complex hybrids, one must be mindful of other dominant features that these impart on the final outcome. But one trait that persists is the colour in the labellum, where it ranges from the slightest hint of colour to more prominent coloration. This is noted in the predominantly white hybrids as in *D.* Shirl Matthews and *D.* Glenlee Snow Drops. Often the twisted petals of hybrids can be diluted with the presence of *D. canaliculatum,* as seen in *D.* Bundy's Mini Lassie, *D.* Jaydee Jim and *D.* Rachelle Simpson (see photos); where the heavily twisted petals of the other *Spatulata* species is often reduced to minimal twists.

Table 3 indicates just a small cross section of complex hybrids with associated photos indicating the influence imparted from *D. canaliculatum.*

However, it does impart some less desirable traits that detract from the ideals expected for the show bench. One that is often noted in some hybrids is the flattening of the lateral sepals - where the lateral sepals tend to sit

D. Alex MacPherson x *canaliculatum*	50% *canaliculatum,* 50% *Spatulata*
D. Aprichart Rainbow	50% *canaliculatum,* 0 % *Spatulata,* 40 % *Phalaenanthe*
D. Bold Sparkle	50% *canaliculatum,* 46.5 % *Spatulata,* 3.5 % *Phalaenanthe*
D. Glenlee Snow Drops	50% *canaliculatum,* 26.5% *Spatulata,* 23.5% *Phalaenanthe*
D. Jin Balmoja	50% *canaliculatum,* 37.5% *Spatulata,* 12.5% *Phalaenanthe*
D. Memoria Stan Laffey	50% *canaliculatum* , 50% *Spatulata*
D. Shirl Matthews	50% *canaliculatum,* 31% *Spatulata,* 19% *Phalaenanthe*
D. Spiral Gem	50% *canaliculatum,* 50% *Spatulata*
D. Wee Mary	50% *canaliculatum,* 44% *Spatulata,* 6% *Phalaenanthe*

Table 3 A cross section of complex hybrids



Den. Alex MacPherson
x *D. canaliculatum*



Den. Aprichart Rainbow
x *D. canaliculatum*

horizontally rather than the desired 45 degrees from the mid-line. *Dendrobium* Alice's Rainbow (photo number)exhibits the flattened lateral sepals that too often detract from a beautiful flower.

The presence of *D. schulleri* in both primary and complex hybrids appears to dilute or excise the colour in the labellum in the majority of hybrids where *Den. canaliculatum* is in the mix. This is evident in the Australasian hybrids *D.* Fraser's Canary Twister (*D. schulleri* x *D. canaliculatum*) and *D.* Queensland Gold.

This suggests that the colour genes of *Den. schulleri* are dominant and countermand the labellum colour that is generally passed on from *D. canaliculatum.* However, further investigations into complex hybrids with the presence of *D. canaliculatum*, *D. schulleri* and other *Spatulata* and *Phalaenanthe* such as *D. phalaenopsis* and *D. bigibbum* appear to display colour in the labellum, dependant on the ratio between *D. schulleri* and *D. phalaenopsis.*

The years developing hybrids with *D. canaliculatum* have proved fruitful for many hybridisers, creating hybrids with reduced physical size, improved flower count, upright inflorescences and an interesting labellum colour, just to name



Den. Bold Sparkle
(D. Blue Sparkle *x D. canaliculatum*



Den. Jin Balmoja 'RPR Magenta



Den. Glenlee Snow Drops



Den. Shirl Matthews (*D.* Ivory Cavalier x *D. canaliculatum*



Den. Alice's Rainbow exhibiting the flattened lateral sepals



Den. Memoria Stan Laffey



Den. Spiral Gem 'Uniwai Topaz'



Den. Wee Mary

a few. However, being mindful of the few negative traits that raise their head occasionally, hybridisers have sought another smaller growing *Spatulata* species that may reduce the percentage of these negative traits. It is believed the introduction of *D. carronii* may prove a better parent to improve the shape of the lateral sepals. But there certainly would be a price to pay, as *D. carronii* does not have the length of inflorescence, nor the flower count that hybridisers are seeking. It appears that further research and comparisons need to be documented to investigate the pros and cons of such hybridising programs. *Dendrobium canaliculatum* continues to have a strong place in *Spatulata* and hard-cane hybrids.

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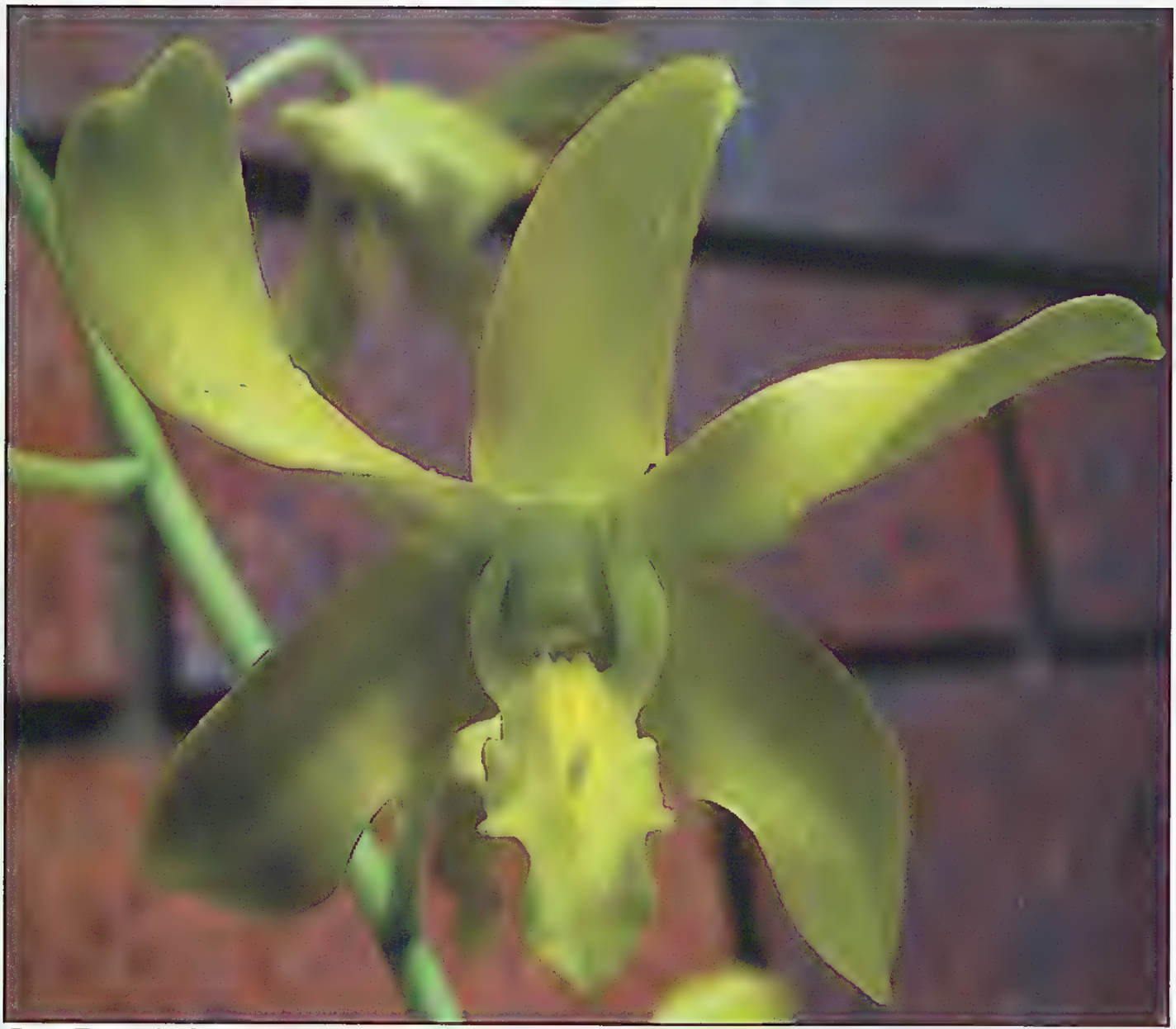
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The many guises of D. canaliculatum R. Br. Orchadian 16: needs completion



Den. Fraser's Canary Twister
(D. schulleri x D. canaliculatum)



Den. Queenslander Gold 'Queenslander'

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I would like to express my sincere gratitude to:

Chris Cobb for his invaluable field knowledge and the use of field photographs, Brian Coleman for his vast hybridising knowledge and experience, Jon Cara for his photographs of *D.* Maggie May and *D.* Golden Chimes and Burbank Orchids for the use of their photograph of *D.* Queensland Gold.

ORCHIDS DON'T READ BOOKS

I have used this phrase many times and it will probably gain in use each year I am still above ground. Part of the reason is due to climate change (if you are a believer) and its slow encroachment into our lives. Already I have seen *Ficus* trees in a nearby rainforest, which are alleged to occur no further south than Gosford and a variety of Monitor, *Varanus varius* 'Bells Form', which normally is at home in the Pilliga Scrub in northern New South Wales, a distance of 500 km in a direct line from where it was seen near Nowra, so one should not be surprised to find the occasional orchid out of its preferred habitat. The habitat ranges for all species is defined by years of study and recordings and to be fair to all, there are surely some infinitely small areas of habitat which have not seen the imprint of a hiking boot.

One species which is a constant source of contention, particularly with my local Council, is *Cryptostylis hunteriana* and its preferred habitat is extremely varied to say the least. The prime flowering period can also vary, depending on seasonal variances and height above sea level. Most of those who have encountered this vulnerable species have seen it at sea level, and but it has been recorded from over 600 m near Nowra and one other site. We have also seen it in flower from mid-November until late February. This year I received information from one of my spies that it was in flower in mid-June. The next morning I saw it and the report was true. This was June 18th and the site was crumbly yellow clay in an area which had been disturbed by the construction of a small roadside dam which will most likely be used for the occasional outbreak of fire.

There were four plants in total, as close together as the fingers on a hand, supporting 50 spent flowers, four capsules and one remaining flower. The flowering plant had produced 17 flowers and a search of the surrounding area failed to locate anything else except a few plants of *Cryptostylis erecta* and *Cryptostylis subulata.*

Alan W. Stephenson
National Conservation Officer
affine@tpg.com.au



Cryp. hunteriana habitat Turpentine Rd



Cryp. hunteriana plants - Turpentine Rd.



Cryp. hunteriana - Turpentine Rd.



DENDROBIUM SPECIOSUM SPECTACULAR

& AUSTRALASIAN ORCHID SPECIES and HYBRID SHOW 2012
Kempsey, NSW

(Ted & Winsome Walmsley and ANOS Mid North Coast Group)

Now in its 11th year this well established event should not be missed. Note the dates and be sure to come and experience the magnificence of a mass flowering of speciosums. A range of fine quality line bred plants will also be for sale. All are welcome to exhibit and judging will be by an all ANOS panel. Monetary prizes and trophies will be awarded in a range of classes including species, hybrids and terrestrials.

Interstate entries are encouraged with a prize for the most travelled orchid.
***Dates*: Sat 1st Sept 10am to 4pm**
[Closed for judging b/w 11am and 12noon this day]
Sun 2nd Sept 9am to 2pm

***Location*: 57 Spooners Ave., Greenhill via Kempsey.**

***Details*: Electronic copy of a brochure with locality map, show schedule and associated events is available by e-mailing John Zietsch at: anosmidnorthcoast@hotmail.com**
OR contact Ted Walmsley on (02) 6562-7150 or John Zietsch on (02) 6554-9733.

RHS Registrations of Australian Hybrids
Nov 2011 to Jan 2012

Dendrobium		
Flaxton Duno	Eleerose x *speciosum*	Vlekkert (D.U.N.O.) 2012
Linda Brown	Yondi x Golden Nuggett	Down Under N.O. 2011
Little Saigon	June Mac x *speciosum*	M.Pham (F.Clarke) 2012
Regal Charm	Regal Gillieston x Aussie Charm	M.Pham (F.Clarke) 2012
Saigon Beauty	Jonathan's Glory x Jannine Banks	M.Pham (F.Clarke) 2012
Sapa Beauty	Gillieston Jazz x Zip	M.Pham (F.Clarke) 2012
Starbright Vista	Avril's Gold x Hilda Poxon	F.Clarke 2012
Susan's Ruby	Elegant Heart x Rutherford Sunspot	S.Gange (D.U.N.O.) 2012
Rhinochilus		
Toowoomba Sunshine	*Rhincs.* Yellow Cascades x Sarco. Sharon	J.Woolf (L.Fagg) 2011
Sarcochilus		
Amelia	Duno Nickys Twin x Velvet	D.F.Butler 2011
Bridget George	Colthup x Cherie	D.F.Butler 2011
Candy Floss	Weinhart x Yvette	D.F.Butler 2011
Cool Dove	George Colthup x Dove	D.F.Butler 2011
Copper Queen	Colonial Hart x Duno Nickys Twin	D.F.Butler 2011
Currambene	Judith x Peace	N.Roper 2012
Ella	Heidi x Hot Ice	J.Woolf (Buchanan) 2011
Fiery Glow	Bernice Klein x Zoe	D.F.Butler 2011
Georges River	George Colthup x Riverdene	D.F.Butler 2011
Lustrous	Elegance x Velvet	D.F.Butler 2011
M and M	*falcatus* x Velvet	M.&M.Adams 2011
Misty's Twin	Misty x Duno Nickys Twin	D.F.Butler 2011
Morning Glory	Aussie Dawn x Duno Nickys Twin	D.F.Butler 2011
Peppermint Spots	Issy's Rainbow x falcatus	J.Woolf 2011
Pixie Ann	Pixie Pearls x Karen Ann	D.F.Butler 2011
Ricks Dawn	Dawn Hart x *hartmannii*	Down Under N.O. 2011
Ruby Snow	Tin Yin Lara x *hartmannii*	D.F.Butler 2011
Serenade	Yvette x Melody	D.F.Butler 2011
Toowoomba Fancy	Sharon x Bernice Klein	J.Woolf (L.Fagg) 2011
Toowoomba Magic	George Colthup x Sharon	J.Woolf (L.Fagg) 2011
Toowoomba Rose	Elizabeth x *fitzgeraldii*	J.Woolf 2011
Velvet Lace	Goyju-Talawah x Velvet	D.F.Butler 2011
Velvet Mist	Misty x Sarco. Velvet	D.F.Butler 2011
Velvet Star	Star Struck x Sarco. Velvet	D.F.Butler 2011
Woollamia	Fizzy Dove x Cherie Snow	N.Roper 2012

New Hybrid Registrations

The list of new hybrid registrations does not adequately illustrate what hybridisation is being carried out using Australian native orchids. There is a lot of breeding going on that we do not hear about.

In the following pages are some images of recent registrations. It should be noted that these are likely to be first flowering and probably do not represent the potential of the crosses.

I hope to continue to publish images of Australian new registrations in the next issues and possibly add some images of Australasian registrations.

Ian Chalmers



Dendrobium Linda Browne 'Peaches'
Brian Gerhard



Sarco. Toowoomba Magic J.Woolf



Dendrobium Fast Eddie Brian Gerhard



Sarco. Toowoomba Rose J. Woolf



Sarco. Fiery Glow J. Woolf



Sarcochilus Copper Queen 'Red Brown'

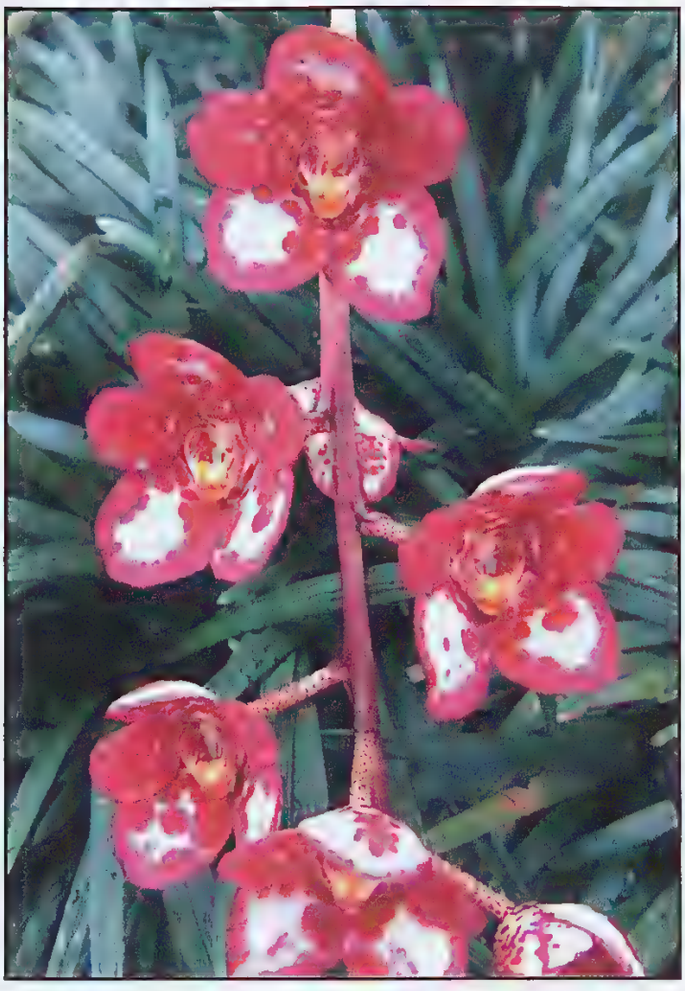
Photos D. Butler



Sarcochilus Fiery Glow 'Magenta Star'



Sarcochilus Misty's Twin 'Rich Red'



Sarcochilus Pixie Ann 'White Patches'



Sarcochilus Misty's Twin 'Harlequin'



Sarcochilus Georges River 'Cream 2011'

ESSAY COMPETITION

The Foundation is pleased to announce the establishment of the **AOF Essay Prize**.

The AOF Essay Prize is an annual writing competition, established with a generous endowment by the Slade family.

There will be three prizes –

1st	Prize	$350.00
2nd	Prize	$250.00
3rd	Prize	$150.00

The Foundation invites all Australian orchid growers to consider the topic for 2012 and submit an entry. We would not only like to reward you, but we would like to hear about your ideas and experiences and benefit from them.

ESSAY TOPIC FOR 2012:

"Orchid Conservation At Home"

Let us know about your approaches and philosophies in meeting some of the more recent problems that can influence your culture of orchids. You may like to write about how you and /or members of your orchid society have coped with water restrictions, or the expensive cost of electricity and gas, or the limited space you have for your orchids now you have down-sized. These are just a few ideas to help you get started.

The deadline for receipt of all entries is June 30th 2012

Send your entry to:
AOF Essay Prize P.O. Box 322,
Essendon North Vic. 3041
or electronically to:
aof@australianorchidfoundation.org.au

Entry Rules:
This competition is open to Australian residents only.

The essay will be an original article, not previously published
The essay must be no more than 3,000 words, short essays are most welcome
The essay is to be in English, typewritten and doubled-spaced
Entries may include art work or images

The authors of the essays will remain undisclosed to the judges, whose decision will be final. If in the opinion of the judges, no worthy essays are received, there will be no award that year.
Non-winning entries will be returned to the sender. These entries may be submitted to the editors of Australian orchid periodicals for publication, with permission from the author.
The winning essay will be announced at the AGM of the Foundation in October 2012
The winning entry will be published on the AOF website and in Australian orchid periodicals

New and Old Papuan *Peristylus.*

Paul Ormerod,
P.O. box 8210, Cairns 4870, Queensland.
Email: wsandave1@bigpond.com

Abstract. Two new *Peristylus* species from New Guinea are described and illustrated, namely *P. brassii* and *P. norumbus*. Two previously established taxa (*P. hollandiae* and *P. nymanianus*) are also discussed. The first entity is recognised as a valid species and is newly recorded from New Britain. The second taxon is here considered a synonym of the widespread *P. maingayi*.

The genus *Peristylus* Blume consists of about 100 mostly terrestrial, white to green flowered species distributed from India to Tahiti. In New Guinea there are about 19 species (15 endemic) now known from the island. Many of the named taxa are still only known from the type collections. *Habenaria* Willd. is the closest relative of *Peristylus* but the latter is distinguished by having its stigmatic arms united (not free) to the labellum.

Peristylus brassii Ormerod, *sp. nov.*

Type: Indonesia, Papua Prov., 9 km NE of Lake Habbema, 2800 m, October 1938, *L.J. Brass 10601* (Holotype: AMES!).

Affinis P. triaena (Schltr.) P.F. Hunt *sed lobulis lateralibus labello cuneatis et truncatis (non ligulato-lanceolatis et obtusis) differt.*

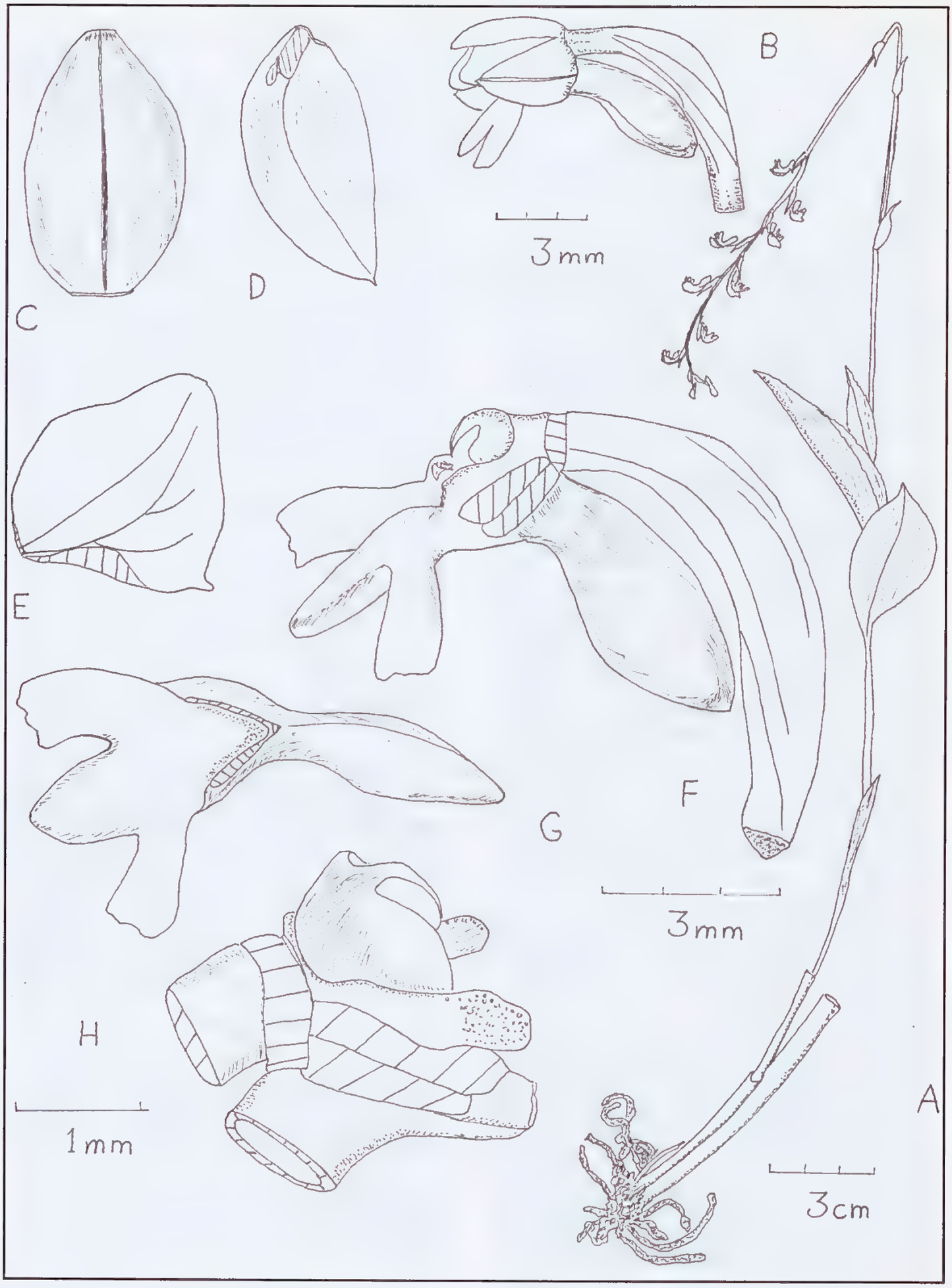
Terrestrial herb. Roots terete, pubescent, clustered, ca. 10. Stem erect, terete, 3 leaved near apex, 21.5-26.5 cm long, 0.1-0.4 cm thick; sheaths tubular, 3, lax, 2.5-5.5 cm long. Leaves ovate-lanceolate to elliptic, acute to subacuminate, margins crinkly, 1.5-2.3 cm apart, 2.5-5.2 cm long, 0.7-2.1 cm wide. Inflorescence terminal, 23.9 cm (33.2 cm long in capsule with 20.5 cm peduncle and 12.7 cm rachis) long; peduncle 16.4 cm long; sheathing bracts 3-4, lax, 1.05-1.80 cm long; rachis laxly 12-15 flowered, 7.5 cm long; floral bracts ovate-lanceolate, acute, to 8 mm long, 3.8 mm wide. Pedicellate ovary cylindric-fusiform, arcuate, 8 mm long; capsules dehisced, 11-14 mm long, gradually smaller toward rachis apex.

Flowers resupinate, green. Dorsal sepal ovate-elliptic, obtuse, weakly carinate, 3.9 mm long, 2.75 mm wide. Lateral sepals obliquely ovate-elliptic, concave, apiculate, carinate, 4.1 mm long, 2 mm wide. Petals obliquely widely ovate, lower margin with a deltate tooth, obtuse, 2 veined, connate to sides of column, 3.9 mm long and wide. Labellum trilobed, spurred, ecallose, free part 2.5 mm long, ca. 4.8 mm wide across sidelobe tips, joined to column for 1.5 mm; spur fusiform-clavate, obtuse, 4.5 mm long, 1.8 mm thick; midlobe ovate, obtuse, convex, ca. 1.75 mm long and wide; sidelobes cuneate, irregularly truncate, 1.75 mm long, 1.1 mm wide. Column short, stout, 1.5 mm long (to tips of stigmatic arms).

Distribution: Indonesia (Papua Prov.).
Habitat: Under low woody growths in bed of a stream, 2800 m.

Etymology: Named after L.J. Brass (1900-1971), collector of the type.

This taxon is the first of the *P. triaena* (Schltr.) P.F. Hunt complex to be reported from Indonesian Papua. It differs from *P. triaena* and its allies in having an ecallose labellum with cuneate, truncate



Peristylis brassii - A. plant; B. flower; C. dorsal sepal; D. lateral sepal; E. petal; F. flower minus tepals; G. labellum; H. column. A, B, C-G and H to respective scales. Drawn from holotype.

(not ligulate to lanceolate, acute to obtuse) sidelobes.

What I believe to be *P. pachyneuroides* Renz was also collected by Len Brass [no. 10928 (AMES)] in the type locality of *P. brassii.* The former is also a high altitude (2600-3000 m) taxon, previously only known from Papua New Guinea and also possessing the characters of the *P. triaena* group, it is not related to *P. pachyneura* (Schltr.) P.F. Hunt.

Peristylus hollandiae J.J.Sm., Bull. Dep. Agr. Ind. Neerl. 45:1, 1911.

Habenaria hollandiae (J.J.Sm.) Schltr., Repert. Sp. Nov. Regni Veg., Beih. 1:5, 1911.

Type: Indonesia, Papua Prov., near Hollandia bivouac, May 1910, *K. Gjellerup 140* (Holotype: BO).

Distribution: Indonesia (Papua Prov.); Papua New Guinea.

Specimens examined: Indonesia, Papua Prov., Baliem River, 1600 m, December 1938, *L.J. Brass 11641* (AMES, BRI).

Papua New Guinea, New Britain, Mother Volcano, February 1915, *Dr. F.H. Kenny s.n.* (AMES).

This species has been listed in the synonymy of *P. goodyeroides* (D.Don) Lindl. (e.g. Seidenfaden 1977) but it differs from that taxon in that the labellum lacks the basal triangular to ovate-oblong dark raised patch (or 'nectary') characteristic of the latter. It is likely that previous records of *P. goodyeroides* (e.g. Schlechter 1911) for New Guinea will prove to be referable to *P. hollandiae*. An old specimen from New Britain represents a new record for that island and Papua New Guinea.

Peristylus hollandiae is very similar to the nomenclaturally senior Australian species *P. banfieldii* (C.T. White) Lavarack and further comparison of the two is to be desired.

Peristylus maingayi (King & Pantl.) J.J. Wood & Ormerod, in T.E. Beaman et al., Orch. Sarawak: 368, 2001.

Habenaria maingayi King & Pantl., J. Asiatic Soc. Beng. 66, 3:604, 1897.

Type: Singapore, *Maingay 3354 (=Kew Distr. 1663)* (Holotype: CAL; Isotype: K). *Peristylus nymanianus* Krzl., in Schum. & Laut., Fl. Deutsch. Schutzgeb. Sudsee, Nachtr. 2:76, 1905 *syn. nov.*

Habenaria nymaniana (Krzl.) Schltr., Repert. Sp. Nov. Regni Veg., Beih. 1:12, 1911.

Type: Papua New Guinea, Simbang, *E. Nyman 890 bis* (Holotype: B, destroyed).

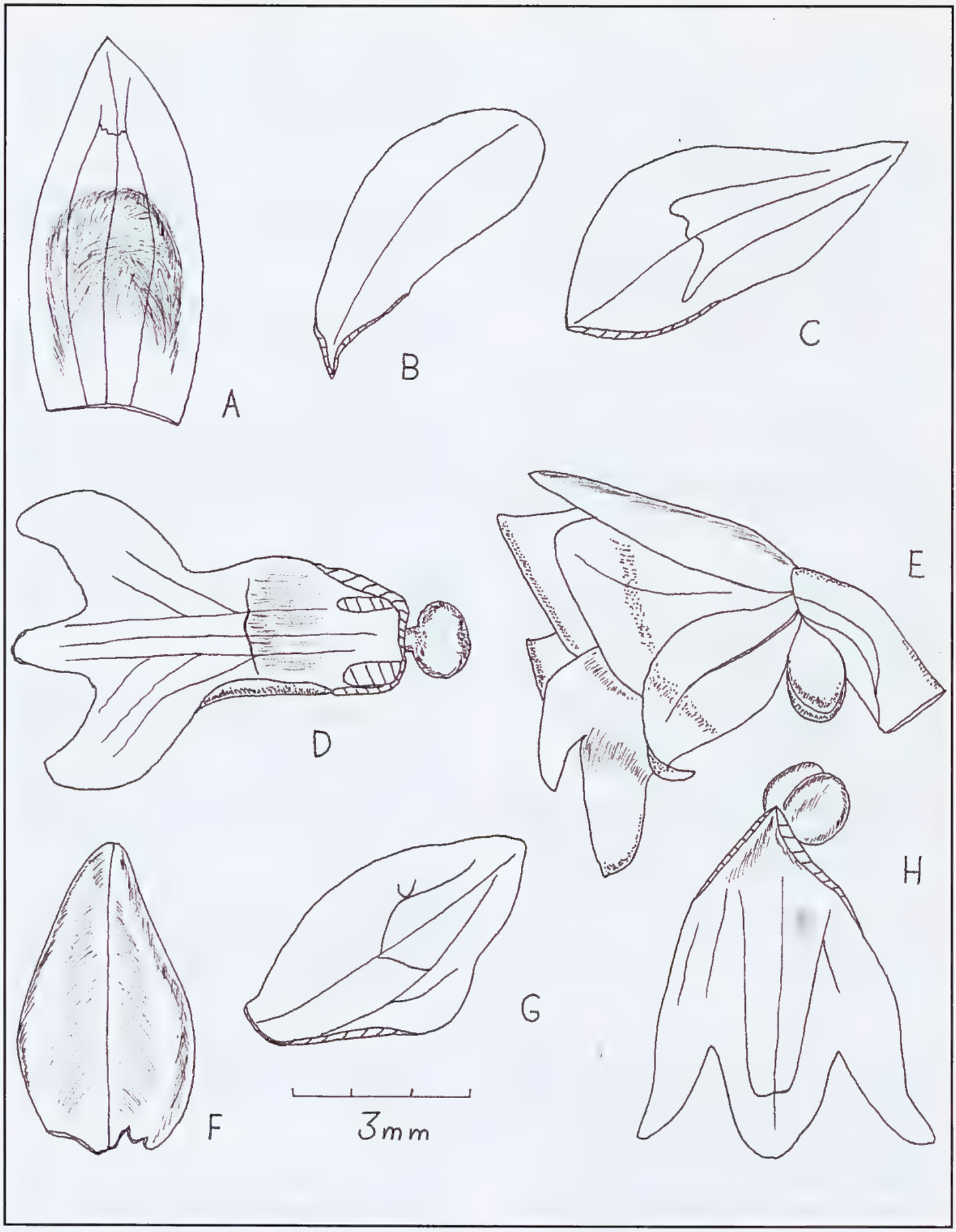
Peristylus cynosorchoides Krzl., in Schum. & Laut., Fl. Deutsch. Schutzgeb. Sudsee, Nachtr. 2:76, 1905.

Type: Papua New Guinea, Simbang, *E. Nyman 787* (Holotype: B, destroyed). *Habenaria ovariophora* Schltr., Repert. Sp. Nov. Regni Veg. 9:434, 1911 *syn. nov.*

Peristylus ovariophorus (Schltr.) C.E. Carr, Gard. Bull. Straits Settl. 8:168, 1935.

Type: Malaysia, Sarawak, near Kuching, 30 m, December 1906, *R. Schlechter 15338* (Holotype: B, destroyed).

Distribution: Vietnam; Cambodia; Thailand; Malaysia; Singapore; Indonesia; Papua New Guinea; Australia (NE Queensland).



Peristylis maingayi - A. dorsal sepal; B. lateral sepal; C. petal; D. labellum.
Peristylis hollandiae - E. flower; F. dorsal sepal; G. petal; H. labellum. A-D from *Craven & Schodde* 1427 (AMES), E-H from *brass* 11461 (AMES). A-H to scale.

Specimen examined: Papua New Guinea, Morobe Prov., Aseki Patrol area, near Kwaimengu, 1160 m, 23 April 1966, *L.A. Craven & R. Schodde 1427* (A, BRI).

This widespread plant was previously well known as *P. candidus* J.J.Sm. The earlier epithet *Habenaria maingayi* was overlooked because Ridley (1907) wrongly put it into the synonymy of *H. lacertifera* (Lindl.) Benth. [now *Peristylus lacertifer* (Lindl.) J.J.Sm].

Seidenfaden (1977) has provided a full list of the synonymy under the younger name *P. candidus.* To these names I add the Papuan plant *P. nymanianus* and a Bornean entity Schlechter called *Habenaria ovariophora.* The latter taxon was distinguished by its labellum lacking a raised callus but the same feature occurs in the specimen from Morobe Province cited above. It is clear therefore that the callus doesn't always develop though the lower half of the lip claw is usually broadly thickened medially.

Peristylus norumbus Ormerod, *sp. nov.* Type: Papua New Guinea, Madang Prov., near Kaironk Village, 2200-2400 m, 23 July 1997, *G. Weiblin, M. Evans, B. Isua & S. Majneb 1016* (Holotype: A!; Isotype: LAE).

Affinis P. tradescantiifolius (Rchb.f.) Kores *sed foliis obovato-ellipticis, oblongo-ellipticis ad ovato-lanceolatis (non lanceolatis) et lobis lateralibus brevioribus (2.75-3.00 vs. 3.5-7.0 mm longis) differt.*

Terrestrial herb. Roots terete, pubescent, to 0.2 cm thick. Stem terete, erect, 3 leaved apically, grey-green, 38.5-47.0 cm long, 0.20-0.45 cm thick; sheaths tubular, 4-7, the upper one sometimes forming a small subfoliose blade (3 cm long, 1.45 cm wide). Leaves obovate-elliptic, oblong-elliptic to ovate-lanceolate, acute to subacuminate, yellow-green above, bluish grey-green below, 51.4-81.6 cm long; peduncle 17.8-34.7 cm long; sheathing bracts 3-6 or more, 1.0-4.2 cm long; rachis sublaxly many-flowered, grey midgreen, 33.6-46.9 cm long; floral bracts lanceolate, acute, grey midgreen, to 14 mm long, 4 mm wide. Pedicellate ovary cylindric-fusiform, grey midgreen, 12 mm long; capsules thickly fusiform, green, to 16 mm long, 3.5 mm thick.

Flowers resupinate, pale yellow-green, spur and dorsal sepal slightly darker green distally. Dorsal sepal ovate-elliptic, obtuse, carinate, concave, 2.5-3.0 mm long, 2 mm wide. Lateral sepals ovate-elliptic from a clawed base, carinate, lower 1 mm connate to sides of lip, ca. 3.5 mm long, 1.75 mm wide. Petals obliquely widely ovate, obtuse, 2 veined, connate to sides of column, 3.3 mm long, 2.4 mm wide. Labellum trilobed, spurred, free part ca. 3 mm long, joined to column for 1.4 mm; spur narrowly clavate to fusiform, subacute to obtuse, 5.00-6.75 mm long, 1.2 mm thick; midlobe ovate, subacute to obtuse, fleshy, thickened basally, 1.9 mm long, 1.75 mm wide; sidelobes ligulate-lanceolate, acute to obtuse, forming an acute angle with midlobe, 2.75-3.00 mm long, 0.40-0.75 mm wide. Column short, stout, ca. 1.5 mm long (to tips of stigma arms).

Distribution: Papua New Guinea.

Specimen examined: Papua New Guinea, New Ireland, Namatanai Subprov., Hans Meyer Range, lower approach ridges to Mt. Angil, ca. 9 km NW of Taron, 1750 m, 17 October 1975, *M.J.S. Sands, G.A. Pattison & J.J. Wood 2236* (AMES, K, NSW).



Peristylis norumbus - A. plant; B. flower; C. dorsal sepal; D. lateral sepal; E. petal; F. column and G. labellum minus a side lobe. A and B-F to respective scales. Drawn from holotype.

Habitat: Understorey herb in upper montane rainforest dominated by *Nothofagus*, 30-40 m canopy (type); montane, often mossy forest, including *Syzygium*, some *Podocarpus*, growing amongst leaf litter associated with Zingerberaceae, *Selaginella* spp., ferns and tree seedlings, 1750-2400 m.

Vernacular name: Norumb (Kalam Language, Madang Province).

Etymology: The specific epithet is derived from the local name for the species.

This plant was first recognised as new by the late Dr. Jany Renz when he studied in Kew the New Ireland collection of Martin Sands and company that had been previously identified as *P. tradescantiifolius*.

The flowers of *P. norumbus* do closely resemble those of *P. tradescantiifolius* but the former is a plant of higher altitudes (1750-2400 vs. 0-1000 m) and has obovate-elliptic, oblong-elliptic to ovate-lanceolate (not lanceolate) leaves, lateral sepals with a distinct claw that is wholly united to the sides of the lip (vs. unclawed with only the upper edge united to the sides of the lip and column) and the labellum with shorter (2.75-3.00 vs. 3.5-7.0 mm), straight-tipped (vs. curl-tipped) sidelobes.

It is possible that *P. norumbus* is more closely related to its New Guinean congener *P. listeroides* (Schltr.) P.F. Hunt but that taxon differs in having paired leaves, unclawed, mucronate lateral sepals, a shorter (3.5 vs. 5.00-6.75 mm) spur and a labellum with a dentiform callus.

Acknowledgements.

I wish to thank herbarium and library staff at BRI, HUH (A, AMES, GH), K and NSW for their help and hospitality during my visits.

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Schlechter, R. 1911. *Habenaria* Willd. (pp. 5-16) in Die Orchidaceen von Deutsch-Neu-Guinea. Repert. Sp. Nov. Regni Veg., Beih. 1:1-1079.

Seidenfaden, G. 1977. Orchid Genera in Thailand V. *Orchidoideae.* Dan. Bot. Ark. 31, 3:5-149.



Sarco. Candy Floss 'Pink Spots'
New Registration D. Butler

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- **Native Orchid Society of Toowoomba**, P.O. Box 2141,Toowoomba 4350. Meetings 7.30 pm, 1st Fri. each month. Lutheran Church Hall, Cnr. West and Alderly Sts, Toowoomba.

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- **ANOS Melbourne Suburbs Group**, PO Box 169, Bayswater Vic. 3153. 0419720355. Meetings held on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm at Montrose Primary School, Leith Rd., Montrose 3765 (Melways 52 D7)

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- **ANOS Western Australia**, 27 Maidment Parade Dalyellup WA, 6230. 041 9901 335. Meetings 8 pm, 2nd Mon. each month. Wilson Community Hall, Braibrise Rd., Wilson.

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Dendrobium speciosum 'Solid Gold' Photo Merle Arrah



Sarcochilus Amelia 'White Spots' Photo D Butler